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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/776,379	02/02/2001	Thomas A. Rhcc		8077

26021 7590 07/05/2007  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.  
1999 AVENUE OF THE STARS  
SUITE 1400  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067.

EXAMINER
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PATEL, JAGDISH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3693

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/05/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/776,379	RHEE, THOMAS A.
	<b>Examiner</b> JAGDISH PATEL	<b>Art Unit</b> 3693

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 April 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,7,8 and 36-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-6 and 9-38 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 39 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 36-38 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This communication is in response to amendment filed 4/17/07.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. New claims 36-39 have been added. Presently claims 1, 7, 8 and 36-39 are under examination.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

3. Newly submitted claims 36-38 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

The office action dated 3/20/06 provided detailed response to the applicant's elections of species 1.6 (claims 1, 7 and 8) drawn to generating at least one optimal scenario portfolio in accordance with said investment parameters and current market conditions and comparing expected returns of said optimal scenario portfolio with expected returns of at least one existing portfolio to provide trade recommendations. (See p. 3 of the office action). The applicant subsequently withdrew claims 2-6 and 9-35 responsive to the applicant's traversal of the election restriction requirement.

The newly presented claims 36-39 are directed to inventions, which recite distinct features, which render them mutually exclusive with respect to the originally presented claims. For example, none of the previous claims recited distinct methodology of generating the portfolio stated in claims 36-37. In particular with respect to species 1.6, which comprised original claims 7 and 8, are directed to generating the optimal scenario portfolio in accordance with investment parameters and current market conditions.

In contrast, the newly presented claims 36-37 recited mutually distinct species of generating an optimal portfolio:

- Claim 36 recites generating a portfolio based on computing forward looking estimates for each of a plurality of securities including a securities expected return, volatility and covariance with other security returns.

- Claim 37 recites generating a portfolio based on custom tailoring asset class factors or investment styles with screening tools, and presetting balancing conditions.

- Claim 38 recites generating a portfolio based on initially choosing candidate securities before a final list of securities is chosen and configuring optimality by a mathematical algorithm.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 36-38 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

***Response to Arguments***

4. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., Figure 2 which was not originally presented, "rebalancing conditions", "Nine different trading modes" and specifics of custom tailored portfolios.) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The applicant's arguments therefore are not relevant to the rejected claims.

Rejection of claims 1, 7 and 8 over Labe, Jr. et al. reference as analyzed in prior office action dated September 12, 2006 is maintained.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claim 39 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAGDISH PATEL whose telephone number is (571) 272-6748. The examiner can normally be reached on 800AM-630PM Mon-Tue and Thu.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **KRAMER JAMES A** can be reached on **(571)272-6783**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 517-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jagdish N. Patel

(Primary Examiner, AU 3693)

6/25/07